

SARSAT Weekly Rescues Report for period 26 October to 1 November 2012.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking System Rescues, Twenty.

Incident 1:

On October 25th 2012 at 1421z, the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) 52 miles southeast of Jacksonville, NC. The 4 person crew of the *Attitude Adjuster* were unaware the vessel was taking on water. The incoming water automatically activated the vessel's EPIRB. Coast Guard District 5 (CGD05) received the SARSAT alert and contacted the owner's wife. The owner's wife stated that the *Attitude Adjuster* departed from Beaufort Inlet, NC that morning for a fishing trip. CGD05 issued an Urgent Marine Information Broadcast (UMIB) and contacted Coast Guard Station Fort Macon, NC. A boat and an HC-130 aircraft were launched to the SARSAT coordinates. A nearby fishing vessel, the *Sea Lion*, responded to the UMIB. The *Sea Lion* received the SARSAT coordinates from CGD05 and changed course to investigate. The *Sea Lion* established radio contact with the *Attitude Adjuster*. The crew of the *Attitude Adjuster* reported that the vessel was taking on a significant amount of water, and evacuated before the vessel rolled and submerged. The *Sea Lion* safely recovered all 4 crew members and transferred them to Station Fort Macon rescue personnel.

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Incident 2:

On October 26th, 2012 at 2156z, the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) about 484 miles Northwest of Fairbanks, AK. A group of ATV riders activated the PLB after one of the riders suffered a back injury when her ATV crashed. The Alaska Rescue Coordination Center (AKRCC) received the SARSAT alert and contacted North Slope Borough Search and Rescue (NSBSAR). NSBSAR could not reach the scene by helicopter due to icing, and requested assistance from the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard diverted Cutter *Midgett* which launched its H-65 helicopter. The H-65 safely transported the patient to Port Hope, AK for medical attention.

1 SARSAT RESCUE

Incident 3:

On October 28th, 2012 at 0314z, the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) about 422 miles northwest of Anchorage, AK. The ELT activated automatically when an aircraft experiencing engine problems landed in a remote area. The Alaska Rescue Coordination Center (AKRCC) received the SARSAT alert and contacted the company that owns the aircraft. The company then contacted the pilot who informed them of the incident. The pilot was not injured and made camp at the crash site. AKRCC forwarded the SARSAT position to the Alaska State Troopers, who reached the pilot by boat and brought him to safety on the next day.

1 SARSAT RESCUE

Incident 4:

On October 29th, 2012 at 0056z the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) 207 miles east of Wilmington, NC. The Tall ship *HMS Bounty* with 16 people on board was caught in hurricane Sandy. The ship's captain and 2 crewmembers were washed overboard by high seas. The remaining 13 crew members donned survival suits, and abandoned ship into 2 canopied life rafts. One of the 3 crewmen swept overboard was recovered by the crew in the life rafts. The ship's owner contacted the Coast Guard when he lost communications with the *HMS Bounty* on the October 28th. The *HMS Bounty's* EPIRB automatically activated when the vessel sank. Coast Guard District 5 Rescue Coordination Center (CGD5) received the SARSAT alert and correlated it to the owner's report of loss of communications. CGD5 launched a C-130 Hercules aircraft from Elizabeth City, NC to the SARSAT position. The C-130 arrived on scene and established contact with the *HMS Bounty's* crew. When the weather cleared, CGD5 dispatched a MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter that arrived on scene 29 October 29th at 1030z and hoisted five people to safety. A second MH-60 was launched later that day and rescued nine people. The Coast Guard recovered the remaining crew member who was later pronounced dead at the hospital. The search for the Captain was suspended after 4 days

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Total number of rescues for FY 13: 24

Total number of rescues for the calendar year 2012: 237

http://www.nesdis.noaa.gov/SARSAT_Rescues.html

Significance: The SARSAT system protects life and property in support of the nation's commerce and transportation systems. (LTJG Timothy Sinuefield, 301-817-4757)